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IMAGE COMICS PRESENTS

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GARRA DAS TREVAS - CAPA

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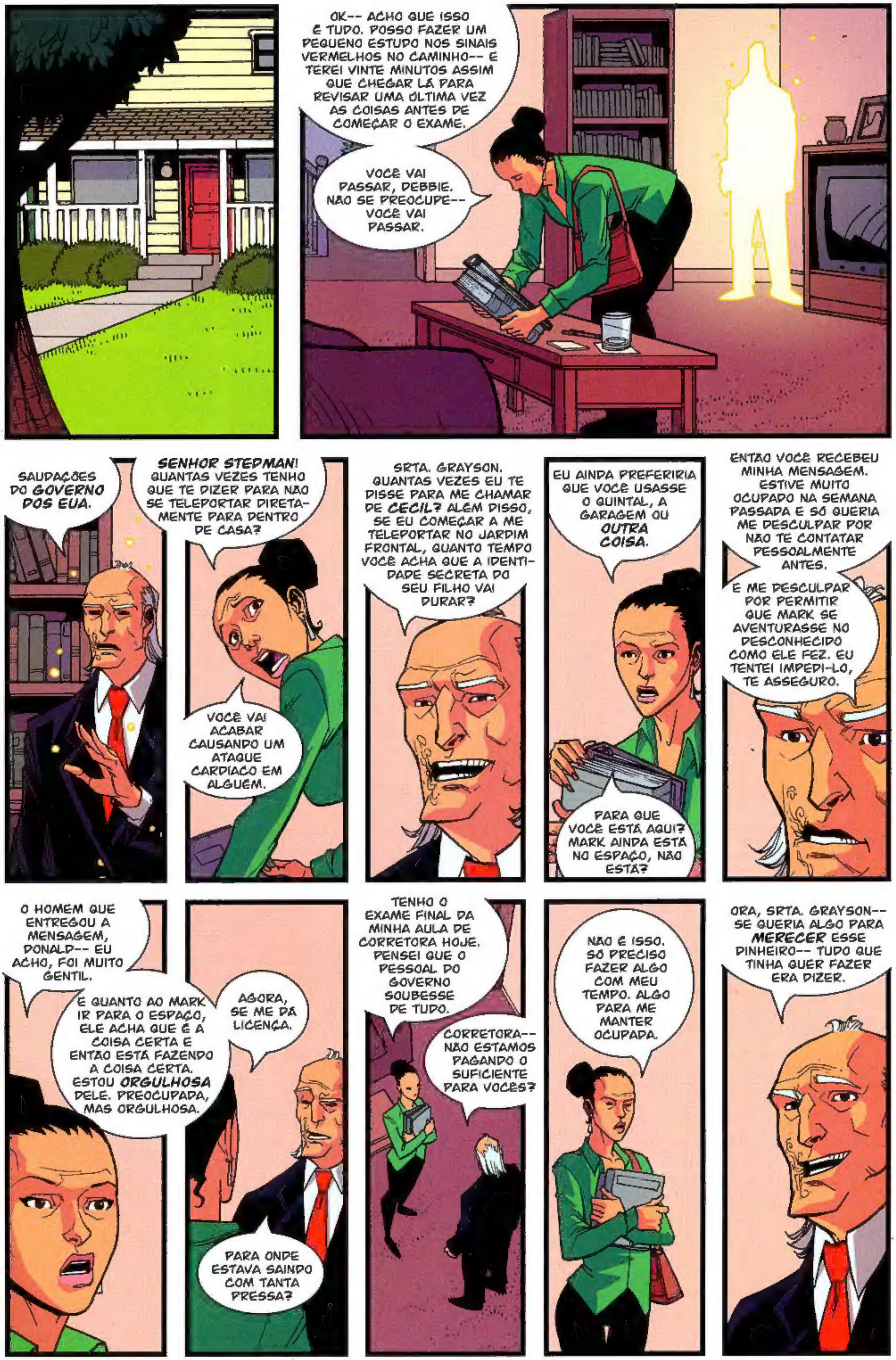
PAI?

SIM, FILHO. SOU EU.
FILHO?

MARK?
PAI?
PAI?

OH, DEUS.
PAI.
MARK--
EU--

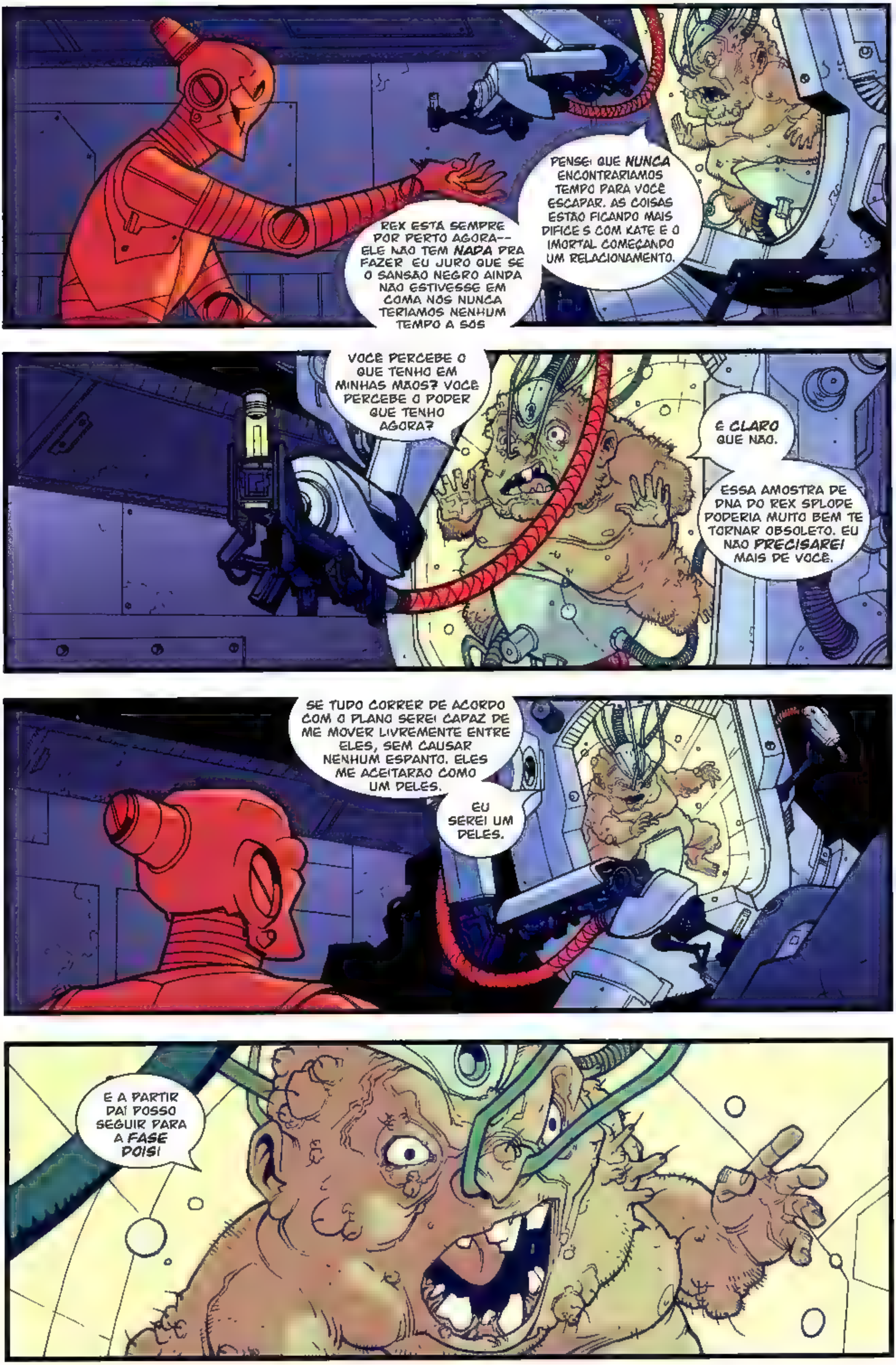
MARK, MEU FILHO-- SENTI SUA FALTA.
ENTÃO VOLTE! VOLTE COMIGO, PAI! POR FAVOR! POR FAVOR VOLTE!
ESQUEÇA VILTRUM-- E TOMAR A TERRA. ESQUEÇA TUDO E APENAS VOLTE-- PRA MIM-- PRA MAMÃE-- FAÇA TUDO DA MANEIRA QUE SEMPRE FOI!
APENAS VOLTE-- POR FAVOR!!
APENAS FAÇA...
APENAS VOLTE E FAÇA TUDO SER COMO ERA.
NÃO POSSO FAZER ISSO, FILHO.
MESMO SE PUDESSE-- A TERRA NUNCA ME RECEBERIA-- NÃO DEPOIS DO QUE FIZ. EU NUNCA MAIS POSSO VOLTAR LÁ.
NUNCA.
ESSE É MEU LAR AGORA.



OK-- ACHO QUE ISSO É TUDO. POSSO FAZER UM PEQUENO ESTUDO NOS SINAIS VERMELHOS NO CAMINHO-- E TEREI VINTE MINUTOS ASSIM QUE CHEGAR LÁ PARA REVISAR UMA ÚLTIMA VEZ AS COISAS ANTES DE COMEÇAR O EXAME.
VOCÊ VAI PASSAR, DEBBIE. NÃO SE PREOCUPE-- VOCÊ VAI PASSAR.
SAUDAÇÕES DO GOVERNO DOS EUA.
SENHOR STEDMAN! QUANTAS VEZES TENHO QUE TE DIZER PARA NÃO SE TELEPORTAR DIRETAMENTE PARA DENTRO DE CASA?
VOCÊ VAI ACABAR CAUSANDO UM ATAQUE CARDÍACO EM ALGUÉM.
SRTA. GRAYSON. QUANTAS VEZES EU TE DISSE PARA ME CHAMAR DE CECIL? ALÉM DISSO, SE EU COMEÇAR A ME TELEPORTAR NO JARDIM FRONTAL, QUANTO TEMPO VOCÊ ACHA QUE A IDENTIDADE SECRETA DO SEU FILHO VAI DURAR?
EU AINDA PREFERIRIA QUE VOCÊ USASSE O QUINTAL, A GARAGEM OU OUTRA COISA.
PARA QUE VOCÊ ESTÁ AQUI? MARK AINDA ESTÁ NO ESPAÇO, NÃO ESTÁ?
ENTÃO VOCÊ RECEBEU MINHA MENSAGEM. ESTIVE MUITO OCUPADO NA SEMANA PASSADA E SÓ QUERIA ME DESCULPAR POR NÃO TE CONTATAR PESSOALMENTE ANTES.
E ME DESCULPAR POR PERMITIR QUE MARK SE AVENTURASSE NO DESCONHECIDO COMO ELE FEZ. EU TENTEI IMPEDI-LO, TE ASSEGURO.
O HOMEM QUE ENTREGOU A MENSAGEM, DONALD-- EU ACHO, FOI MUITO GENTIL.
E QUANTO AO MARK IR PARA O ESPAÇO, ELE ACHA QUE É A COISA CERTA E ENTÃO ESTÁ FAZENDO A COISA CERTA. ESTOU ORGULHOSA DELE. PREOCUPADA, MAS ORGULHOSA.
AGORA, SE ME DÁ LICENÇA.
PARA ONDE ESTAVA SAINDO COM TANTA PRESSA?
TENHO O EXAME FINAL DA MINHA AULA DE CORRETORA HOJE. PENSEI QUE O PESSOAL DO GOVERNO SOUBESSE DE TUDO.
CORRETORA-- NÃO ESTAMOS PAGANDO O SUFICIENTE PARA VOCÊS?
NÃO É ISSO. SÓ PRECISO FAZER ALGO COM MEU TEMPO. ALGO PARA ME MANTER OCUPADA.
ORA, SRTA. GRAYSON-- SE QUERIA ALGO PARA MERECER ESSE DINHEIRO-- TUDO QUE TINHA QUER FAZER ERA DIZER.

PORCO!
THWAK!!
SE VOCÊ INSINUAR ALGO COMO ISSO NOVAMENTE MEU FILHO NUNCA FARÁ NADA PARA VOCÊ.
NO QUE VOCÊ ESTAVA PENSANDO?
TE ASSEGURO, SENHORA. EU NÃO ESTAVA PENSANDO EM TAL COISA. ESTOU UM POUCO CHOCADO QUE VOCÊ ENTENDEU QUE EU TIVESSE DITO ISSO.
QUIS DIZER QUE TÍNHAMOS TRABALHOS CLERICAIS DISPONÍVEIS-- DIGITAÇÃO E OUTRAS COISAS. NÃO É A COISA MAIS DIVERTIDA PARA PASSAR O TEMPO, MAS ISSO NÃO IRIA REQUERER NENHUM ESTUDO EXTRA.
EU SÓ QUERIA QUE VOCÊ SOUBESSE QUE SE O TRABALHO COMO CORRETORA NÃO DER CERTO... VOCÊ TEM OPÇÕES.
CERTO, ENTÃO... DESCULPE PELO MAL ENTENDIDO. EU-- ME EXCEDI.
POR FAVOR, ACEITE MINHAS DESCULPAS.
NÃO SE PREOCUPE, MESMO. ESTOU FORA DE CAMPO HÁ MUITO TEMPO. SER ACERTADO DESSE JEITO ME PÕE DE VOLTA.
MAS REALMENTE DEVO IR.
EU TAMBÉM.

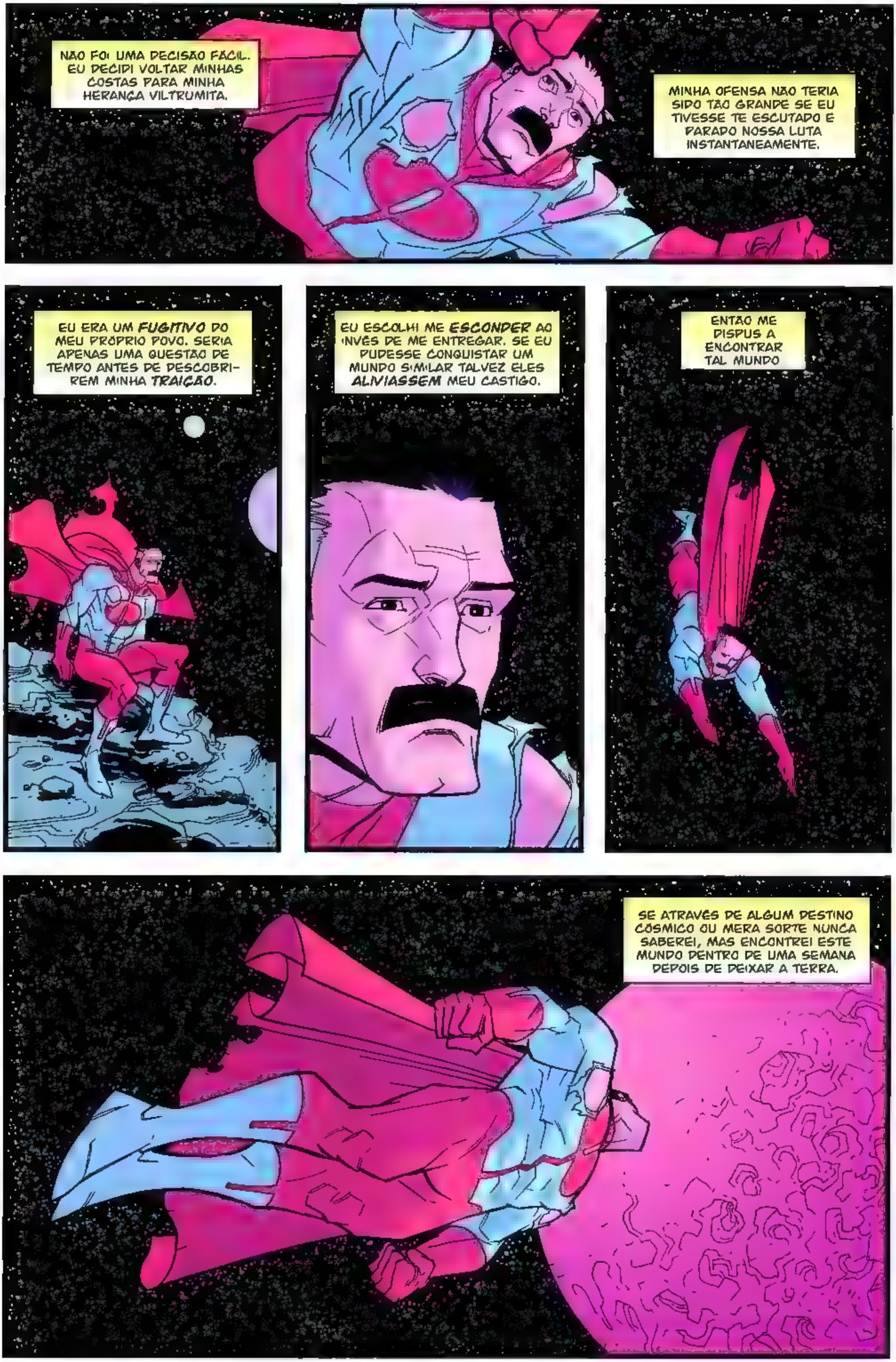
AHH...
FINAL-
MENTE.



REX ESTÁ SEMPRE POR PERTO AGORA-- ELE NÃO TEM NADA PRA FAZER EU JURO QUE SE O SANSÃO NEGRO AINDA NÃO ESTIVESSE EM COMA NÓS NUNCA TERIAMOS NENHUM TEMPO A SÓS
PENSE: QUE NUNCA ENCONTRARIAMOS TEMPO PARA VOCÊ ESCAPAR. AS COISAS ESTÃO FICANDO MAIS DIFICE S COM KATE E O IMORTAL COMEÇANDO UM RELACIONAMENTO.
VOCÊ PERCEBE O QUE TENHO EM MINHAS MÃOS? VOCÊ PERCEBE O PODER QUE TENHO AGORA?
É CLARO QUE NÃO.
ESSA AMOSTRA DE DNA DO REX SPLODE PODERIA MUITO BEM TE TORNAR OBSOLETO. EU NÃO PRECISAREI MAIS DE VOCÊ.
SE TUDO CORRER DE ACORDO COM O PLANO SEREI CAPAZ DE ME MOVER LIVREMENTE ENTRE ELES, SEM CAUSAR NENHUM ESPANTO. ELES ME ACEITARÃO COMO UM DELES.
EU SEREI UM DELES.
E A PARTIR DAÍ POSSO SEGUIR PARA A FASE DOIS!

ENTÃO-- A BRIGA ACABOU? TERMINAMOS COM ISSO?
SIM.
EU NÃO POSSO-- AS COISAS TERRÍVEIS QUE VOCÊ DISSE-- AS COISAS HORRÍVEIS QUE FEZ-- NÃO POSSO PERDOAR ISSO-- MAS NÃO POSSO DEIXAR APAGAR DEZOITO ANOS QUE TIVE COM O PAI QUE AMEI.
EU TENTEI... E NÃO CONSIGO.
COMO VOCÊ CHEGOU AQUI?
DEIXEM-NOS.

EU VIVI COMO UM VILTRUMITA POR MILHARES DE ANOS ANTES DE IR PARA A TERRA-- MAS AQUELE PEQUENO TEMPO QUE PASSEI LÁ-- ME MUDOU.
EU ESTAVA PRONTO PARA TE MATAR QUANDO VOCÊ ME DESAFIOU. EU TERIA FEITO. AQUELES ERAM OS COSTUMES DOS VILTRUMITAS
VOCÊ ERA FRACO. VOCÊ MERECIA MORRER.
MAS QUANDO SE TORNOU CLARO QUE EU TERIA TE MATADO-- QUE VOCÊ NÃO SE JUNTARIA A MIM-- QUANDO SE TORNOU CLARO QUE EU NÃO TERIA OUTRA OPÇÃO...
...NÃO PUDE FAZÊ-LO.
EU TINHA DUAS OPÇÕES. EU PODIA TE MATAR E ESCRAVIZAR A TERRA COMO EU DEVERIA FAZER. OU PODERIA DEIXAR A TERRA-- E DEIXAR VOCÊS.
EU ESCOLHI PARTIR.



NÃO FOI UMA DECISÃO FÁCIL. EU DECIDI VOLTAR MINHAS COSTAS PARA MINHA HERANÇA VILTRUMITA.
MINHA OFENSA NÃO TERIA SIDO TÃO GRANDE SE EU TIVESSE TE ESCUTADO E PARADO NOSSA LUTA INSTANTANEAMENTE.
EU ERA UM *FUGITIVO* DO MEU PRÓPRIO POVO. SERIA APENAS UMA QUESTÃO DE TEMPO ANTES DE DESCOBRIREM MINHA *TRAIÇÃO*.
EU ESCOLHI ME *ESCONDER* AO INVÉS DE ME ENTREGAR. SE EU PUDESSE CONQUISTAR UM MUNDO SIMILAR TALVEZ ELES *ALIVIASSEM* MEU CASTIGO.
ENTÃO ME DISPUS A ENCONTRAR TAL MUNDO
SE ATRAVÉS DE ALGUM DESTINO CÓSMICO OU MERA SORTE NUNCA SABEREI, MAS ENCONTREI ESTE MUNDO DENTRO DE UMA SEMANA DEPOIS DE DEIXAR A TERRA.

ELES ERAM UM POVO VASTAMENTE DIFERENTE DO QUE AQUELE DA TERRA. APESAR DA TECNOLOGIA DELES E O AVANÇO DA ESPÉCIE SER MUITO SIMILAR.
DE CERTAS FORMAS ELES SÃO MENOS AVANÇADOS, DE OUTRAS FORMAS, ELES SÃO MAIS AVANÇADOS.
EU DECIDI POR ESTE MUNDO QUASE INSTANTANEA-MENTE
A EXPECTATIVA DE VIDA DELES SÃO UMA MERA FRAÇÃO DA DO POVO DA TERRA. NO MÁXIMO CERCA DE NOVE MESES.
POR CAUSA DE SUA LIMITAÇÃO GENÉTICA-- ELES HAVIAM EVOLUÍDO A PONTO DO APRENDIZADO SER UM PROCESSO QUASE INSTANTÂNEO ALCANÇADO DURANTE A AÇÃO DE ELES TENTAREM APRENDER.
SEUS ANCIÕES SÃO A CLASSE GOVERNANTE. O MEMBRO MAIS VELHO CONHECIDO DA ESPÉCIE É COROADO GOVERNANTE DO PLANETA INTEIRO.
ELES MUDAM DE LÍDERES NUM RITMO MUITO RÁPIDO.
DESNECESSÁRIO DIZER QUE FOI INCRIVELMENTE FÁCIL ASSUMIR O CONTROLE DESTE PLANETA. QUANDO ELES DESCOBRIRAM MINHA IDADE-- FUI ELEITO GOVERNANTE QUASE IMEDIATAMENTE
AS COISAS ANDAM RÁPIDO POR AQUI.

ELES APENAS ENTREGARAM O PLANETA INTEIRO PRA VOCE? SEM FAZER PERGUNTAS?
SIM, FILHO-- ENTREGA-RAM.
AS COISAS SÃO MUITO DIFERENTES AQUI, MARK. A EXPECTATIVA DE VIDA DELES CONTAM PARA AS MUITAS E GRANDES DIFERENÇAS.
DEPOIS DE NOVE MESES AQUI, NINGUEM ESTARÁ VIVO PARA SE LEMBRAR DO PLANETA DELES ANTES DE MEU GOVERNO. PENSE NISSO.
VOCE SOBREPOE UMA GERAÇÃO INTEIRA EM MEIO ANO.
SUPONHO QUE ESTEJA CERTO. POSSO VER COMO ISSO TORNARIA UMA CONQUISTA MAIS FÁCIL DE ACEITAR.
VENHA. AINDA HÁ MUITO A DISCUTIR.
MAS ESPERA UM MINUTO-- VOCE ACHOU QUE MANDAR UM DELES DISFARÇADO COMO SCIENCE DOG ME FARIA QUERER AJUDÁ-LOS?
COMO VOCE ESPEROU QUE ISSO FOSSE ME ENGANAR?
EU QUERIA ESCOLHER UMA FORMA QUE VOCE NÃO ACHASSE UMA AMEAÇA IMEDIATA. ALGO CONFORTANTE PARA VOCE. SEI O QUANDO VOCE SEMPRE AMOU AQUELE CÃO DO DESENHO.
ELES NUNCA DEVERIAM TENTAR CONVENCER VOCE DE QUE ERAM REALMENTE O SCIENCE DOG. ISSO FOI APENAS ELES ENTENDENDO MAL MINHAS INSTRUÇÕES.
ENTENDO.

O QUE?!
OK! PARE! ACALME-SE!
VI O QUE ESSAS COISAS PODEM FAZER-- SE MASCARAR COMO SCIENCE DOG-- PENSEI QUE TALVEZ VOCÊ--
EU SÓ TINHA QUE TER CERTEZA!
E ENTÃO?
TENHO CERTEZA.

VOCE FICOU MAIS FORTE. ISSO E BOM.
EU ESTAVA CONTANDO COM ISSO.
O QUE QUER DIZER COM ISSO? O QUE VIM FAZER AQUI?
O QUE EU POSSO FAZER AQUI QUE VOCE MESMO NAO POSSA FAZER?
VILTRUM SABE QUE ESTOU AQUI.
ESTAO VINDO ATRAS DE MIM.
O QUE? QUANDO?
NAO SEI DE NADA ALEM DE BREVE. EU ABANDONEI MEU POSTO. PARA ELES, SOU AGORA UM--
ESPERE UM INSTANTE.

BOA NOITE, MEU AMOR.
O QUE VOCÊ--?! PAI?!
O QUE É--?!
SIM-- SUPONHO QUE ISSO PAREÇA BEM INCOMUM PRA VOCÊ, BASEADO EM SUA FAMILIARIDADE COM OS COSTUMES DA TERRA.
TE PROMETO, NÃO É MAIS ESTRANHO DO QUE COMO O ATO DE BEIJAR ERA PARA MIM QUANDO CHEGUEI NA TERRA.
OH, E QUASE ESQUECI. ESSA É MINHA PARCEIRA, ANDRESSA.
OLÁ, MARK. É BOM FINALMENTE TE CONHECER.
SUA... PARCEIRA?
SIM, FILHO. ESSE É MEU LAR AGORA. EU NUNCA RETORNAREI PARA A TERRA. ESSA PROVAVELMENTE NÃO É A MANEIRA MAIS FÁCIL DE VOCÊ DESCOBRIR ISSO MAS TENHO UMA VIDA INTEIRAMENTE NOVA... EU SEGUI EM FRENTE.
OH, JÁ É A HORA?
VÁ NA FRENTE. JÁ VOU NUM INSTANTE.

SEGUIU EM FRENTE?! VOCE SÓ ESTÁ ME DEIXANDO?!
E ASSIM QUE É? VOCE ME CHAMOU AQUI PARA DIZER ADEUS?!
VOCE NUNCA DEVIA TER ME CONTATADO NOVAMENTE! NÃO POSSO PASSAR POR ISSO DUAS VEZES!
NÃO, FILHO. EU NUNCA TE ABANDONAREI. VOCÊ É O MOTIVO DE EU NUNCA VOLTAR À TERRA. EU NUNCA PODERIA TE MATAR-- E VOCÊ DEIXOU ISSO CLARO PARA MIM-- ERA ISSO QUE EU TERIA QUE FAZER PARA COMPLETAR MINHA MISSÃO.
ENTÃO VOLTEI MINHAS COSTAS PARA MEU DEV-- ME TORNEI UM FUGITIVO DO IMPÉRIO VILTRUM.
POR VOCÊ.
MAS-- E QUANTO À...
MAMÃE?
NÃO DISCUTIREI SOBRE SUA MÃE.
AGORA VENHA. TEM ALGO MAIS QUE DEVO TE MOSTRAR.
O QUE É AQUILO?

ESSE...
...É O SEU IRMÃOZINHO.

WRITE US @

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PENVINCIPALS

Welcome to issue 26. The issue with everything! Chills! Thrills! Spills! And everything in-between. I hope you are enjoying the currently running "A DIFFERENT WORLD" storyline. I promise you--it only gets better from here.

Oh, and congrats to Ryan, Bill, and Rus for their usual bang-up job.

Now, if you've skipped this letters column to get to the CAPES back-up that we mentioned was going to start in this issue, well, you're disappointed. Mark got the script a little later than I had planned due to what I like to refer to as "con madness" which hit me hard this year. He was going fine and would have finished with plenty of time for it to appear here--but during the delay I changed the plot of next issue a tad and that opened the door for a really cool lead-in to the Capes back-up, so I decided to hold off for a month since it'd make more sense and be cooler. I mean, you were going to buy this issue anyway, right? So why are you complaining?!

Mrs. Englert, I promise I'll refund the money you spent on the fifty copies of this issue you bought, or send you fifty free copies of next issue. Sorry again.

Have I talked about Marvel Team-Up 14 yet? The one with Invincible guest-starring with Spider-Man? No? Well, Invincible is going to guest star in Marvel Team-Up issue 14 with Spider-Man. Make sure you reserve your copies today. Cory Walker and Bill Crabtree are on art and it'll be in stores one of those Wednesday's in November. So look for it.

Now, oh heck--let's just answer some mail!

The Kirk-man!

What's with all this stuff about issue 23 not being up to your normal standards? Stop being so hard on yourself man, this issue was awesome! Although, I guess if being hard on yourself results in even better stories, I wouldn't mind that either! Anyway, back to issue 23, which by the way is probably one of my favorite issues of all so far. I loved seeing Allen in action, and seeing a Viltrumite attack was really cool. I loved that it was a slight departure from normal, and that we got to see some of the fallout from Nolan's actions taking place elsewhere in the universe. The story involving Nolan really seems to be huge, which is great, and all of the other dozen subplots are just so much fun to read! I cannot wait for the coming developments in all of these stories, especially the one involving Angstrom Levy -- he seems like a really interesting character.
I started reading Invincible as a result of the free comic book day issue last year. I thought it looked like a fresh approach to superheroes in that it didn't try to disguise itself from being a superhero book, it just has cool superhero stories that turn out really well. So I decided to check out the first trade around Christmas time, and I've been hooked ever since! Thanks for keeping every issue fun and light-hearted, it's really great to see something that embraces it's genre so openly. Just a few quick questions before I go.

1. Will Eve be making a return to the super-hero business soon?

Yes. Briefly.

2. Any chance to see more developments in the whole Monster-girl thing?

Ish 25 has her origin. Her story is still ongoing--we'll be seeing a lot of her as time goes on.

3. Can we see more of Rex? He always seems to be shown as a jerk and an idiot, but we don't really get to see a whole lot of him other than his jerk moments.

Again, see issue 25 for his origin, and yeah, there will be more Rex as time goes on. I've got plans for all these side characters but it's Mark's book, y'know.

4. You are going to stay with the book, right? Please don't leave such an awesome book behind when you become rich and famous!

I'm not going anywhere, trust me.

Thanks for writing such a great series, and keep up the great work.

~Rob Luff

Also, just to touch on the ish 23 stuff. I'm proud of the issue, I think it's a fun, dense read. I think people REALLY got their money's worth in that issue, story-wise. I'm also proud that the tone of the issue makes the brutal beating Allen takes toward the end that much more jarring. I think it's a GOOD issue. BUT--it was the single WORST issue I could have followed the #0 issue with and I admit that. It's just that if I didn't do it THEN... I couldn't have done it LATER... I don't think. But, hey--you're all still here, right?

Hello.

I've been on the Invincible bandwagon since the beginning and I really enjoy this series. In fact, it's one I look forward to very much every month. However, I am starting to get annoyed with either you, Mr. Kirkman, or Image comics at the more than 30 days between issues. It has been 6 weeks since issue 23 came out with no guarantee that 24 will be out this week (July 14). Whether it be personal problems or because of obligations to other comic companies (if that's the case I will be really angry with you and suggest you focus more attention on the comic that obtained said other comic company's attention on you in the first place) I think you owe all your fans an explanation. As well, what's with the flimsier paper stock on Invincible now? The covers at least used to be a lot sturdier.

Sincerely,
John Gallant

Well, the scheduling thing has always been a problem. We're trying to get things under control right now. I think by the end of the year we'll be on easy street. Still, we're doing like 11 issues a year... we're losing like 4 weeks over the course of a year, that's good, right? Like I say though, we're going to try to do better.

The cover stock has changed for two reasons, it increases our profit on the book a great deal because it's cheaper to use, and I LIKE it that way. It makes the book feel more like a comic book. I'm not a big fan of cardstock covers. If you like cardstock covers, pick up the TPBs. For whatever reason--issue 25 had a thicker cover. Hope you like that. Really, though, are the flimsy covers that bad? I mean, I don't want you all to be unhappy. WE like them--if you really, REALLY can't live with them, let us know.

PENvinciPALS,

Another swell issue in the can. I'm enjoying that Art's getting some more screen time. He's a good character, don't go killing him! And Debbie has a buisness degree?? Way to keep the surprises rolling. It was nice to see Angstrom's plans finally come together, but I'm sure we've only seen the beginning of what he has planned. As always, got to love that ending!

1) So how much a month is Art spending to make Mark new costumes? Does Mark have to pay him?

The details of Art's business agreement with Mark are a closely guarded secret around here.

2) Capes back-ups in issue #26 gets me happy. How long are these going to run for?

Well, starting with issue 27 they're going to run for at LEAST six issues, maybe a little longer.

3) Why would Angstrom have cared if the Mauler's killed Mark? I mean, yeah, it gave a leap to the story, but Angstrom doesn't seem like the kind of guy that would care.

-Mike Stornioio

Really? Angstrom never killed an innocent person. He threatened the Mauler Twins but for the most part, up until issue 24, he was a nice guy who wanted help using his powers. He didn't take any of his counterparts against their will. He was a cool dude until he went nuts.

So I have no idea were this is going at this point, and I love it. Oh and so many frames with so many words. I love this book. And hey, I read your response to the Jubilee fan in issue 24 and now I miss the book even more. Albert and Elisedee! Crap. That would have rocked. I loved your FF Foes. One of these days they'll give you a higher profile regular title, besides MTU (which rocks). I thought I was the only fan of Sleepwalker.

My high profile Marvel book should be announced by the time you read this, but--just in case, I'm not going to mention it here.

1. So um, how did Mark know about the Mauler and Clones thing?

Cecil called him--and filled him in on the way. That's what Cecil DOES.

2. Can we look forward to more crossovers in the future with other Image characters (yours in particular)?

Next issue.

3. What books influence you? New and old.

I dig everything by Bendis, Vaughan, and Brubaker. Savage Dragon has always been a favorite. Bob Fingerman's Minimum Wage is a great exploration of character.

4. Come on admit it, did you think you'd reach issue 24?

I didn't think we'd reach issue SEVEN. Things are much better now, really, like by a MILE so I feel safe in admitting to you eagle-eyed cats who actually read these letters columns that issue 13 was ALMOST the last issue. But don't worry, like I say, we're doing MUCH better now and sales go up every month. But yeah, we were struggling there for a while.

5. Who would Simon Pegg play in this movie? Robot maybe?

Anyone he wants--if I had any say in it.

Here's to 24 more issues,
Chris Pitts

Here's to 100! Aim high, Pitts.

This is the first time I've ever written to a comic. Really.

So... Invincible has a nemesis now, eh? I find that whole thing where a character goes after another character because of a misunderstanding really very frustrating, because it could so easily be sorted out if they'd just sit back and think about things. Every time I see Angstrom Levy from now on, it'll make me frustrated and angry, but you know, frustrated and angry in a good way because the pointlessness of it makes for a great story. Good stuff.

I'm glad you agree with me. I always HATED (in a good way) how Venom and Spider-Man could have been pals if Eddie Brock would have just listened to Peter. I've always wanted at least ONE villain in this book with a really thin reason for hating our main guy. A LOT. I promise I'll be putting the usual Invincible twist on things.

So what's all this about a regular comicbookresources.com column? What are you, Warren Ellis now?

Kelvin Green

I've always been Warren Ellis. Now, piss off.

Hey Kirkman,

When the heck is your website going to be running? I'm tired of staring at that stupid Kirkmania logo!

You and me both, man. Before the end of the year, I hope! Fingers crossed.

To make sure this gets printed let me use a ploy that worked with Scott Kurtz.

You see, I'm a longtime and loyal comic book fan who had letters printed in Warrior Nun Areala (by Ben Dunn) Nira-X and The Skunk (by Bill Maus) and recently in PvP (by your buddy Scott Kurtz). Heck, I've even been printed in Playboy .. twice!! (if that doesn't get me in Invincible nothing will)

You're being printed already, SHEESH!

By printing my letter in your fine comic, Invincible will gain even more pizazz (is that a word?) and an astounding amount of greatness never before attained!

(I wonder if that was enough butt kissing... It sure worked well with Kurtz)

Yeah that guy's always after a thorough but kissing, though.

Thank you for providing great stories in EVERYTHING you publish! Seriously I like all your stuff (now that will surely get me printed)

Roch Vaillancourt

You know—you're letter kind of sucks. If I wasn't so lazy I'd just delete the thing I mean, all you said is "Where's your website" and "Here's why you should print my letter." Kinda retarded really.

But oh, well... it's getting printed.

Dear Pen-Vinci-Pals,

Issue #24, so few things in this life are as consistantly pleasurable as this book. From the brutal cover (that had me wondering if "Daddy", or one of his "kind" had returned),to the final page shot of the mutilated, Mauler, I was pleasantly pleased by this issue. Art, modifying the boots on, Invincible, was a smart move. Now that, "Vinny", appears in more books than his own, his costume is sometimes not,"right". This simple alteration should cut that down ,Hell it's not like you designed the old."Troia" garb!). The "fatherly" talk that, Art gives and, Mark's, response to it were touching and real. keep expecting some seasoned pro like the, Super Patriot, to step up and give some guidance. Doesn't look like that is going to happen, good thing there's, Art. Seeing Mark's Mom. start to crawl out of her bottle was uplifting. I, was grateful you didn't have, Mark around her frankly. If this continues it'll be curious to see how, Mark. will deal with her dating. His mother's response to his "outing" himself to, Amber was appropriate. No more people should be in on, Mark's, duo-identity especially "civilians"

The conclusion to the, Angstrom (Green Ghost) Levy subplot, was a surprise to me. was sure that the, Maulers, would betray, Levy, at the last minute. Well, Invincible has a worthy "arch-nemesis" now! But was (is?) this the same, Levy, that was coming to aid, Invincible? The mutated, vengeful freak at the story's end states that he'd ordered the Maulers, to "kill" Invincible. That didn't happen. So I'm thinking some "other", Levy. was shunted into place Some criminally inclined one? I, wasn't wild about the 1st, Levy's choice in lab assistants but at least he seemed benign. Speaking of all that were the "other" "Levi"(?), killed like the, Maulers, or shunted back wherever they came from at the conclusion of the experiment? At least, Invincible, showed some remorse at the outcome of it all. Nice end with the surviving, Mauler escaping the carnage while bitching about, Levy. At least the next time, Mauler pops up we'll be able to spot the clone quicker

Take care.
David Martin

Angstrom is NOT the Green Ghost if that's what you're implying. And yes, all the other Angstrom doubles were killed in the explosion.

Now, I usually go through these emails as I read them, correcting whatever mistakes I read as I go through (and yeah, I miss a ton of stuff) but there were just TOO MANY unneeded commas in this letter to delete--I mean, LOOK AT ALL THOSE THINGS! David's gone CAMMA CRAZY!

Hey there.

I love Invincible. I love it so much was lame enough to buy all the issues and still get the nice hardcover. I'm wondering if there are plans to do another hardcover when more Invincible is written? Sometimes it's easier to read comics in graphic novel format because you're not always having to take the comics out of their bags (I'm just trying to justify my lameness here)

Tara Black

Yes, the plan is to do a hardcover every 12 or so issues. The next hardcover, Volume 2, will contain 14-24 and will be out in March 2006. At least, that's the plan NOW.

Yo Robert Dude!

Lets get straight into the questions cuz I really cant sleep well anymore

1 since this phone # thing is popular could you call Alex at my comic store and tell him he sucks for not ordering enough Invincible comics. He is always selling out before the end of the week. tried talking to the lad but he just wont listen. (514)989-XXXX

I'll try to remember to call him tonight. I got your back, dude.

2 if was Mark and I had a tailor would so have, like dozens of different costumes, see what I'm saying?

Yeah, but you don't know how hard it is to make those things or how expensive they are. Plus, they usually last Mark quite a while before he needs a new one.

3 if you were Alex and u lived here in Montreal and went all the way to the San Deigo comic con and I gave U a list would u or wouldn't u get me something?

I totally would.

4 when is William gonna bite it?

That depends on what William is going to bite now doesn't it? I can't very well answer the question without knowing THAT

5 If you were alex again and U did come back from said con with nothing from my list would your excuse have anything to do with a rash on your legs?

Most definitely

6.I try not to be too much of a fanboy but need more throw-up action that is Green Ghost!!

Wow--that's the second time he's been mentioned in this column? Hmmmm.

7 lol omg just saw your pic for the 1st time in the back of your hardcover
lol rotflmfao

Well. THAT was a bad idea.

Well that it for me 4 now let me get in a word to my peeps who started reading this book only cuz of my letters Francis,dude U have a hot asian wife;) Micheal and seb you bro's rock, Tony you are surly a rock star in another life Rich sonic the hedgehog wont print you but Kirkman will, and dante who had to start big with your hardcover

Rob Steal

Man, tell Rich that if Sonic The Hedgehog won't print him I sure as hell won't!

Kirkman and Co

Invincible was my first Image comic, and I thought for sure I was dooming you to be cancelled when picked up issue #1 I've had that effect on some other properties that I picked up on an impulse (Sleepwalker, Deathlok, Tech Jacket, the list goes on.). Thank you for freeing me from the curse

I've got some bad news for you, Ryan. (joking)

Anyway, in the words of Mark when he first took William flying, "This is so gay" But I couldn't resist writing to let you know that really enjoy Invincible. There, gushing about the Invincible Team's work is done On to the important stuff.

Did Nolan/Omni-Man write his novels as Omni-Man or Nolan? And since he doesn't wear a mask, how does he hide his identity? Any chance of a flashback issue featuring one of Omni-Man's early adventures? It would be cool to see Mark and William as kids

The novel thing will be explained soon, I swear There are no plans for a flashback story yet, but I wouldn't rule it out--there's a lot back in the past that I need to deal with... eventually.

t would also be great if you could squeeze an appearance by "Gravity" into Marvel Team-up. think Marvel had a meeting and said "Let's do something kind of like Invincible" when they pitched "Gravity" as a series Wholesome. wet-behind-the ears superhero, just starting college and even wearing goggles!

Doesn't SPIDER-MAN kinda have goggles? Either way, Gravity will be in Marvel Team-Up 15-18.

Anyway keep up the good work. I'll be reading as long as there are no decapitated kids in this series.

Thanks.
Ryan

Keep it real, G.

Yo Robert Dude
is the Marvel team-up issue 14 rumor true????? Will invincible be there?

Rob Steal

Not if you keep making fun of my picture in the back of the hardcover

Hey Robert,

I'm 100% happy with the way the comic is going, but I'd like to point out that when you switched to the floppy covers I think it was a step down in quality Normally wouldn't mind at all but the ink rubs off the cover where my hand was when was reading it. I really like the covers and feel bad ruining them I noticed it in #24 maybe it was just a weird isolated problem. Well that and you printed my letter under the wrong name in 23 (no big deal, except that since I'm writing this it looks like think it is a big deal.. crap, I've said too much)

Hmm. I hadn't heard about the ink rubbing off from other people. Hopefully you've just got warm greasy hands and the poor ink on this covers is no match for you. And sorry I printed your letter with the wrong name. I've got no clue how that could have happened.

Other than that I guess have a question for you Do you have a limit to the number of comics you'd be willing to write at one time? As far as I know you're writing 3 series but as a writer how many you think you could pull off without a drop in quality? Anyway Invincible is great and I'm just waiting for some posters of the Invincible covers. Posters.

Andrew Robak

I don't know what my LIMIT is because I haven't reached it yet. I can't really gage my own writing as far as quality goes. I've written things I didn't really like that people LOVE and after almost every script for The Walking Dead is written I think "oh, man., is this one any good?" and people LOVE that book. So I don't know. Quality drop or not, I don't think I could physically do more than six scripts a month for any length of time without going crazy--but I'd welcome the challenge!!

Kirkman

have to admit that you caught me by surprise A Spidey/Invincible team up story? That's huge! And while do believe that the best fit for Invincible is Ultimate Spidey and not the 616 version I'm pumped!

Plus Cory Walker's going to pencil it, so it going to look good)

So between the Spidey/Invincible story. the Science Dog backup you're planning for issue 25. and Capes returning in issue 26. well you've made me a very happy man

Um, issue 27, actually. Sorry.

Now if we could only get some more Tech Jacket and Cloudfall)

Someday--I PROMISE.

Anyhow, I just read issues 23 and 24 and they were truely amazing.
I still can't believe that in one issue you actually made me care about Allen. mean, we barely saw him in the series and always felt that he was a two dimensional character

Not anymore.

After the origin story (and seeing that he's more than just a guy that flies from planet to planet and fights each one's strongest guardians) have to admit that I like the guy

GREAT! It worked!

Any chance you're going to give us once every few months an Invincible-less issue focusing on a different person in the book (Eve, Amber, Robot the list goes on and on) ?

It'll be real cool. The Allen issue is one of my favorites so far

Well! Issue 23 is the THIRD time I've done it. Issue 7 was Invincible-less and Issue 22 mostly focused on Amber., so I think it's a pretty safe bet that there will be an issue here and there as time goes on that focuses on the side characters.

And as for 24 oh hell yeah!

My favorite subplot so far has been the Angstrom Levy/Mauler Twins one. And you really hit the jackpot with this issue. "It's not like I even have an arch-villain."

Well, you do now. Kid

I really don't want to see Mark becoming a nigh-indestructible superhero like Superman, and it's cool seeing him getting the living hell beaten out of him from time to time. Now if we can only have Battle Beast coming onboard for Round 2 . hmmmmm

Heh.

Anyhow, I really love your storytelling technique... In this day and age when storyarcs drag on for ages, it's fun reading a story that starts and ends in one issue. That's why Invincible is the best superhero comic book in the world

Keep up the great work
Shlomo Roman
P.S. Battle Pope is crazy. love it)

Thanks.

Dear Penvincipals,
I just got the Invincible Ultimate Collection Vol. 1 today and have to say absolutely love it. I was a late starter on Invincible, and didn't start picking it up until issue 15 because it came so highly recomended. When I saw the Ultimate Collection knew it was for me. had only heard summaries of what had happened in the first issues, including your #0 issue. It was great to get a chance to read all of them back to back like that. Something I noticed, in the Twin Pines mall scene there are some people in the background who look alot like Jay and Silent Bob. I also noticed someone who looked very similar to Charlie Brown. My question about those is this, is this something you write into the script, or something that the artist chose to put in there to see if people notice?

Thanks for your time. and I would love to see this letter in print.)
-Randy Andrews

Those little easer eggs were mostly done by Cory. The Twin Pines mall thing was me--but I never told him to draw any of that stuff in the background.

Around ten years ago I made up t-shirts based on a reproduction of an old engraving I found in a book by the editors of the FORTEAN TIMES, called
PHENOMENA, depicting a young dancer in a state of religious ecstasy in
mid-leap

When I stopped in one of the local comic book shops I noticed the same image referenced on the cover of the book.

Wondering if the image came via the same place I found it or whether somebody saw my t-shirt. tickled if the latter

Other than that I would like to thank you for the dialogue which
INVINCIBLE opens up as to class-based narratives in late capitalist society

--Ria

Weirdest letter ever? Maybe.

I absolutely LOVE your book! I have been reading it since issue 1. I had never subscribed to an Image title before but the idea sounded neat so gave it a shot. Pleased from the very beginning. I have never before taken the time to write to a book before. I just normally read other books and move on, but Invincible rocks so much! I have read the entire existing run through several times. I even bought a copy of the ultimate collection volume 1(which is the first time I have bought a collection containing issues already own). The purpose of this was to loan it to friends and customers (I work at Comix Connection in York, PA). I have loaned it to one friend who signed up immediately upon initial reading. It is a great surprise every time see the new issue is coming, it is always the first title read and is always my Pick of the week when it comes out. Thanks for the Great story-telling! You have a subsciber for life. Joshua Strouse

P.S. I even recently changed my e-mail address because I am such a nerd for your book.

His email address is "MarkGraysonSomething@Something.com" He's a super geek. Still cool, though.

Penvincipals,

WOW!!

This was the action packed finish to the current Angstrom Levy arc that we needed. I loved every second of this issue! Hundreds of Mauler twins getting fried to perfection, and then ol' Angstrom himself goes insane in the membrane at the end there? Brilliant

I also liked that in the letters pages you mentioned that we wouldn't be seeing Omni-Man for a while. Good! Today's comics seem to be too much about instant gratification. like to be teased Robert! That's one story that needs to be built up until we're begging you for Omni-Man's return! (Or just spring it on us.. y'know.. Whatever seems best...).

Springing it on you seemed to be the best course of action. I hope you approve.

And what's this? Issue 25 is going to be 48 pages long? With a 12 page Science Dog backup story? And backups featuring The Immortal Rex Splode Dupli-Kate. Atom Eve and Monster Girl?

I'm having multiple Geek-Gasms!

I love you guys
John Turner

We love you too, John. We love you too.

Kirkman, my man you have done it again. It was cool getting to meet you briefly at WizardWorld Chicago. accidentally left a bag of comics laying around somewhere and luckily you guys held on to it for me at your table. I nearly had a heart attack, so that alone makes you my favorite writer of all time. Thanks again.

Thank Ryan Ottley, he held onto that thing for you. I didn't even notice it. I mean--thanks. I totally saved the day.

Anyway. I was proud to be able to buy the Invincible HC from you that day. Seriously, this is what a hardcover should be like. tons of awesome issues with incredible back-up material. It seems like Marvel and DC have gotten lazy with extras lately so loved how much time and effort you put into this

I was shocked when the Guardians of the Globe were killed. I laughed hysterically when Mark met the comic creator. I was heartbroken when it was revealed that Omni-Man's life with his wife and son was a sham but I'm glad that you at least left some kind of glitter of hope for the future. I may have spoiled some of the other trades for myself by buying #0 and #24 as soon as I could find them, but I'm glad to see you and Ottley are still going strong. Keep it up. I'm looking forward to future issues and the big #25!

Oh, and if you decide to print this for any reason. please feel free to curse me out for my last name again like you did in Walking Dead. That was funny

-Sam Kirkland

CURSE YOU, KIRKLAND!!! It's your fault that every time I tell someone my name over the phone they say "Robert KirkLAND?" and I have to say "NO! KirkMAN--like a superhero." JERK FACE!

Was that good enough?

Dear Robert, Ryan, and the rest of the Invincible crew,

Well, you just sold one of those big. fancy hardcovers. I had my shop order it the day after buying Invincible #0 and #23. Wow. really missed the boat with this comic! People have been telling me I should buy Invincible ever since it first hit the stands. I liked your work on SuperPatriot and buddies that had dropped Savage Dragon recommended it as full of the natural dialogue and tight stories they felt Larsen had abandonned with his Savage World stories. Not sharing their complaints with SD at the time (and not being too wowed by the brief Invincible previews seen elsewhere; perhaps I didn't give their praise the consideration it warranted. For whatever reason, I never had my shop pull a copy for me and, man, am I ever kicking myself for it now.

Not being as deeply immersed in the world as long time readers I can only go on first impressions, so bear with me if I get to rambling. The first picture that I ever saw of Mark's mustachioed father made me think "Look up in the sky. It's the Man of Stalin!" So how very weird to now discover Omni-Man actually is some kind of super powered mass murderer. Even better all of the evil Viltrumites seem to wear mustaches. Stalin and his lil' buddy Hitler really did a number on the collective unconscious if facial hair is synonymous with evil. If had known our hero was spawned from a race of evil space conquerors I'd have been onboard from the word go. It would have spoiled the surprise, but I digress. These Viltrumite guys aren't pussyfooting around either. They messed ol' Allen there up pretty good. Nice to know he'll get better, because the cover of #23 is what propted me to pick the issue up along with #0. Flipping through the issue I thought, "They don't do this sort of thing in comics anymore. Neat!" I'm a sucker for spaceships and weird alien babes. The hammy narration got a few chuckles at first. As the issue progressed it had me rolling my eyes. Then the sudden unexpected blast of violent dismemberment and subsequent revelation of a spy among the head council reeled me right back in. I'm hooked. If the next few issues are this good you'll have me in the boat

I seem to recall once saying "Peter Parker with Superboy's powers? Meh, I'll pass." Opening mouth, inserting foot,

Greg O'Driscoll
Nahunta GA

It's okay. Don't feel too bad. You came around in the end. And for me, Nolan has a "DAD" mustache, not an evil one. All the dads (including my own) I encountered while growing up had mustaches. When I informed my wife that I, when we had a child, would also be shaving my beard down to a "dad" mustache, she informed me that it was an "80s" mustache, not a "dad" mustache and that she would divorce me were I to have one. Stupid girl.

First thing's first Kirkman. I love you. Not in the way I love my girlfriend... more like the way I love getting my hair cut. Or eating an awesome sandwich. But no worries. I'm not looking to eat you between a couple slices of bread. **(what a let down)** Actually. just want to talk about Monster Girl. Her powers have a side effect that's supposed to de-age her so the big solution Robot comes up with is to give her a power suit and tell her to stop being a monster right? would've gone one step further. The Flaxan Empire exists in a dimension where time passes much faster so she could probably spend a few years over there before jumping back to our dimension in a few days. She could easily catch up to those guys she's been hitting on. All she'd have to do is have a way to jump dimensions. Oh yeah, what about Angstom Levy?! Hmmm. just something to think about.

Michael Spanier
Grant County, Kentucky

P.S. There is no prison in here. (See The Walking Dead. Issue 1, Page 1)

Yeah, that would work if A) they had a way to get to the Flaxan Dimension and B) if Monster Girl wanted to live there for two years.. I mean, what would she DO there?

Also, this is something I'll be explaining in the book at some point, but Angstrom can travel from parallel dimension to parallel dimension. The worlds he travels to are the one's where Hitler won WW2 and Mark sided with his father instead of fighting him. They're the SAME but with minor changed. The Flaxan's dimension is no parallel--it's a whole different thing. World's where everyone is a cat, or time works differently. and stuff like that--Angstrom can't go to THOSE universes. That's a different thing. But hey--don't read this here! It'll be more fun when I explain it in the book!

P.S. It's a COMIC BOOK!

That's all for now, kids.

This month's pin-ups are by

1. Derek S. Hunter. Derek is a pal of Ryan's and an all around nice guy who I kinda get a kick out of giving a hard time. He does a book for Slave Labor Graphics called "PIRATE CLUB" and it's almost as cool as his pin-up so if you like his pin-up, do the boy one solid and go out and buy his book.

2. Chris Giarrusso. Chris is the mastermind behind Mini-Marvels and G-MAN which just came out from Image Comics a few months (a year?) back. He's a super-talented dude who's an all around nice guy (and I know I say that about everyone but I mean it this time). He recently finished up a stint as guest-cartoonist over on Scott Kurtz's online PVP comic strip. You can find it in the archive section at www.pvponline.com.

3. Paul John Little. I know next to nothing about John, but he did a SWELL pin-up and I'm sure you can find out more about him by going to www.lowkeycomics.com since he put that on his pin-up.

Great pin-ups all around!

See you back here next month for issue 27 folks!!

-Robert Kirkman

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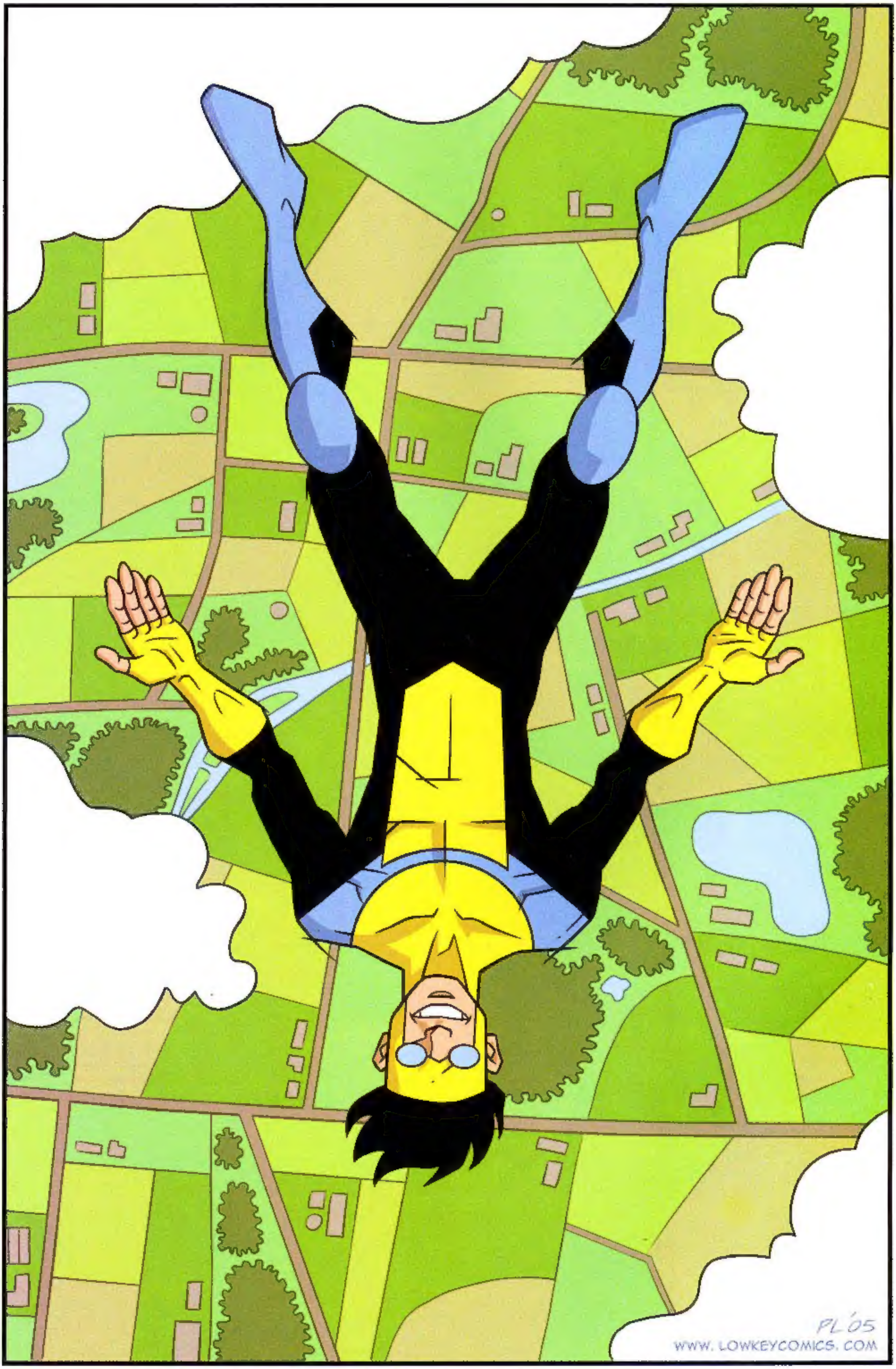
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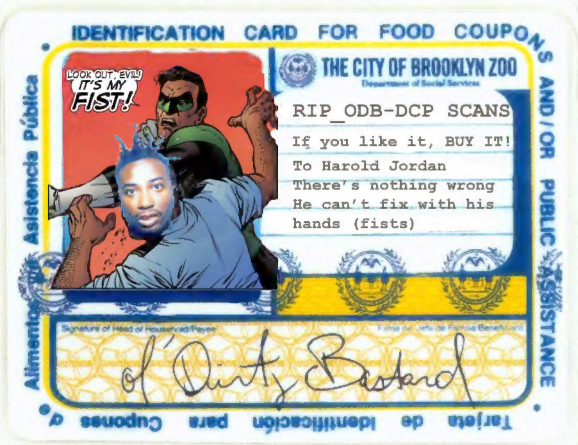

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PERDEU A CABEÇA, HEIN? EU ENTENDI O QUE VOCÊ ESTÁ DIZENDO?
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